

Amendment to the Claims:

Before claim 1, please delete the word "Claims" and substitute the following:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] A rotor for an electric motor, particularly an electric line-start motor, with axially extending receiving spaces [[(4 to 7)]] for permanent magnets [[(10 to 13)]] and with axially extending accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25)]] for conductor rods, [[characterised in that]] wherein in at least one sector of the rotor the accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25)]] for the conductor rods have a substantially elongate cross-section, and that in this sector, in a cross-sectional view, the accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25)]] for the conductor rods are made to be curved along their longitudinal axis.
2. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to claim 1, [[characterised in that]] wherein several permanent magnets [[(10 to 13)]], particularly four permanent magnets, are located so that they generate a rotating magnet field with a neutral axis [[(16)]] and a magnet axis [[(17)]], which is arranged to be perpendicular to the neutral axis [[(16)]], the curvature radii of the accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25)]] for the conductor rods decreasing from the neutral axis [[(16)]] in the direction of the magnet axis [[(17)]].
3. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to [[one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the]] claim 1, wherein distance [[(35 to 39)]] between the accommodating spaces for the conductor rods is constant.
4. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to [[one of the preceding claims, characterised in that]] claim 1, wherein in a cross-sectional view the accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25)]] for the conductor rods are curved and arranged along their longitudinal axis in such a manner that the distance of the accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25)]] for the conductor rods to the rotational axis of the rotor, in a cross-sectional view through the rotor, increases from the neutral axis [[(16)]] in the direction of the magnet axis [[(17)]].

5. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to [[one of the preceding claims, characterised in that]] claim 1, wherein in a cross-sectional view through the rotor, in the vicinity of the neutral axis [[(16)]] and disregarding the curvature of the accommodating spaces, the longitudinal axes of the accommodating spaces [[(20, 21)]] for the conductor rods are aligned substantially radially in relation to the rotor, and in that in a cross-sectional view through the rotor the longitudinal axes of the accommodating spaces [[(24, 25)]] for the conductor rods are arranged to be turned in relation to the magnet axis [[(17)]] in such a manner that in a cross-sectional view through the rotor the radial outer ends of the accommodating spaces [[(24, 25)]] for the conductor rods are located at a smaller distance to the magnet axis [[(17)]] than with a radial alignment.
6. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to [[one of the preceding claims, characterised in that]] claim 1, wherein in a cross-sectional view each accommodating space [[(20 to 25)]] for the conductor rods has two side walls [[(31, 32)]], which have different curvatures.
7. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to claim 6, [[characterised in that]] wherein the curvature radii of the side walls [[(31, 32)]] of the accommodating spaces for the conductor rods are reduced from the neutral axis [[(16)]] towards the magnet axis [[(17)]].
8. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to claim 6 [[or 7]], [[characterised in that]] wherein in a cross-sectional view through the rotor, the inwardly turned ends of the side walls of the accommodating spaces for the conductor rods are connected by a rounded connecting wall [[(34)]].
9. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to claim 8, [[characterised in that]] wherein the connecting walls [[(34)]] of all accommodating spaces for the conductor rods have the same radius.

10. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to [[one of the preceding claims, characterised in that]] claim 1, wherein the receiving spaces [[(4 to 7)]] for the permanent magnets are curved and arranged around the rotational axis of the rotor in such a manner that in a cross-sectional view through the rotor the distance between the receiving spaces [[(5)]] for the permanent magnets [[(11)]] and the accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25)]] for the conductor rods is larger in the area of the magnet axis [[(17)]] than in the area of the neutral axis [[(16)]].
11. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to claim 10, [[characterised in that]] wherein in a cross-sectional view through the rotor the receiving spaces [[(4 to 7)]] for the permanent magnets [[(10 to 13)]] have the shape of bows, which are arranged in the shape of an ellipse, whose main axis covers the neutral axis [[(16)]] and whose auxiliary axis covers the magnet axis [[(17)]].
12. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to [[one of the preceding claims, characterised in that]] claim 1, wherein the rotor has at least one transition zone, in which the accommodating spaces for the conductor rods are not curved.
13. (Currently Amended) [[Rotor]] The rotor according to [[one of the preceding claims, characterised in that]] claim 1, wherein the accommodating spaces [[(20 to 25, 28, 29)]] for the conductor rods are closed on the radial outside.
14. (Currently Amended) [[Electric]] An electric motor, particularly an electrical line-start motor, with a stator comprising a plurality of windings, [[**characterised in that**]] wherein the rotor [[(1)]] according to [[one of the preceding claims]] claim 1, is arranged to be rotational inside the stator.
15. (Currently Amended) [[Electric]] The electric motor according to claim 14, [[**characterised in that**]] wherein short-circuit rings are arranged on the front sides of the rotor [[(1)]], said short-circuit rings connecting the conductor rods with each other.

Please add the following new claims 16 and 17 as follows:

16. (New) An electric motor comprising:
 - a stator comprising a plurality of windings; and
 - a rotor with axially extending receiving spaces for permanent magnets and with axially extending accommodating spaces for conductor rods, wherein in at least one sector of the rotor the accommodating spaces for the conductor rods wherein in at least one sector of the rotor, the accommodating spaces for the conductor rods have a substantially elongate cross-section, and that in this sector, in a cross-sectional view, the accommodating spaces for the conductor rods are made to be curved along their longitudinal axis; and wherein the rotor is arranged to be rotational inside the stator.
17. (New) The electric motor according to claim 16, wherein short-circuit rings are arranged on the front sides of the rotor, said short-circuit rings connecting the conductor rods with each other.